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Diana T Fritz 03/20/2007 05:24:07 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

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UNCLASSIFIED

SIPDIS
TELEGRAM

September 29, 2003

To: No Action Addressee
Action: Unknown
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 4366 - UNKNOWN)
TAGS: OIIP, KMDR
Captions: None
Subject: MEDIA REACTION: QUARTET IRAQ
Ref: None

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 04366

SIPDIS
CXABU:
ACTION: PAO
INFO: ECON POL AMB DCM
Laser1:
ACTION: PAO

DISSEMINATION: PAO
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: PAO:HOLSIN-WINDECKER
DRAFTED: PAO:AALKHATIB
CLEARED: PAO:TPONCE

VZCZCADI062
OO RUEHC RUENAAA RUEKJCS RUEHZM RUEHLO RUEHFR
RHRMDAB RUCJACC RUCQSOC
DE RUEHAD #4366/01 2720850
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 290850Z SEP 03
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1845
RUENAAA/SECNAV WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEHZM/GCC COLLECTIVE
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0718
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0759
RHRMDAB/COMUSNAVCENT
RUCJACC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA//
RUCQSOC/USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL//PA//

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 ABU DHABI 004366

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ARP; NEA/PPD; NEA/P; NEA/RA; INR/R/MR; PA;
INR/NESA; INR/B; IIP/G/NEA-SA
WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESS OFFICE; NSC
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA
USCINCCENT FOR POLAD
LONDON FOR GOLDRICH, MOC MHAMBLEY; PARIS FOR O'FRIEL

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [TC](#)
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: QUARTET IRAQ

11. SUMMARY: THE RECENT MEETINGS OF THE QUARTET AND THE
SITUATION IN IRAQ AND THE PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES DOMINATED

COVERAGE IN THE UAE MEDIA. "AL KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED ON THE ELECTORAL DILEMMAS FACING US PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH AND UK PRIME MINISTER TONY BLAIR DUE TO THE WAR WITH IRAQ. AN "AL BAYAN" EDITORIAL CRITICIZED THE US DECISION TO ALLOW ISRAEL THE RIGHT TO "DEFEND ITSELF." AN EDITORIAL IN "AL ITTIHAD" LAUDED US EFFORTS TO ALLOW THE UN MORE AUTHORITY IN IRAQ. RESPONDING TO SECRETARY POWELL'S CALL FOR AN IRAQI CONSTITUTION IN 6 TO 12 MONTHS, A "GULF NEWS" EDITORIAL ASSERTED MORE TIME, CARE, AND THOUGHT ARE NEEDED FOR SUCH A MAJOR UNDERTAKING. END SUMMARY.

12. COMMENTING ON IRAQ WAR'S IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ELECTORAL HOPES OF US PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH AND UK PRIME MINISTER TONY BLAIR, SHARJAH-BASED PAN-ARAB DAILY "AL-KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED 9/29:

"... WHAT WE MEAN IS THAT GEORGE BUSH'S ADMINISTRATION (AND TONY BLAIR'S) IGNORED PUBLIC OPINION FOR A VERY LONG TIME AFTER BEING DOMINATED BY THE WAR HAWKS, WHOSE AIMS WERE TO TAKE REVENGE ON ALL ARABS AND MUSLIMS AND TO SERVE THE ZIONIST ENTITY AND ITS AMBITIONS NOT ONLY IN PALESTINE BUT ALSO IN THE WHOLE ARAB REGION ... DESPITE THE SNOBBISHNESS OF A NUMBER OF LEADERS IN BUSH'S ADMINISTRATION (AND BLAIR'S), BETS ARE STILL ON THE SIDE OF GOOD REPRESENTED BY FRANCE, RUSSIA, GERMANY, AND CHINA TO A CERTAIN POINT. THEY WILL GUARANTEE A STRENGTHENING THE OCCUPIER'S DILEMMA AND WILL CLOSE THE ROAD IN FRONT OF BUSH FOR A SECOND ELECTION AND BLAIR FOR A THIRD, AND THIS WILL ALLOW THE WORLD TO BREATHE A SIGH OF RELIEF."

13. CRITICIZING THE US DECISION TO GIVE ISRAEL THE RIGHT TO DEFEND ITSELF, DUBAI-BASED BUSINESS-ORIENTED "AL BAYAN" EDITORIALIZED 9/28:

"... WHOEVER READS THE QUARTET'S STATEMENT THAT WAS ANNOUNCED RIGHT AFTER THE MEETING IN THE UN HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK YESTERDAY WILL DISCOVER THAT INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE HAS GONE DEAF AND BLIND. THIS COMMITTEE, WHICH IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PEACE PROJECT CALLED THE 'ROADMAP' THAT WAS DESTROYED BY SHARON AND HIS MASSACRES AND CRIMES, IS EQUATING THE VICTIMIZER WITH THE VICTIM, AS PALESTINIAN POLITICIANS SAY ... BUT EVEN IF THE TRUTH IS LOST AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS UNABLE TO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN THE PALESTINIAN RIGHT AND THE ISRAELI WRONG, THE INTIFADA WILL ALWAYS BE A RIGHT FOR THE PALESTINIANS, AND WHOEVER IGNORES THIS SHOULD READ INTERNATIONAL LAWS THAT EMPHASIZE NATIONS' RIGHTS TO DEFEND THEMSELVES AND DETERMINE THEIR SOVEREIGNTY."

14. LAUDING THE AMERICAN DECISION TO ALLOW THE UN A ROLE IN IRAQ, ABU DHABI-BASED SEMI-GOVERNMENT "AL ITTIHAD" EDITORIALIZED 9/28:

"THE DECISION OF THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION TO ALLOW THE UN MORE AUTHORITY IN THE ELECTIONS AND THE TRANSITIONAL POLITICAL PHASE IN POST-WAR IRAQ, INDICATES A BIG CHANGE IN WASHINGTON'S ATTITUDE THAT SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED AS AN INTERNATIONAL ATTITUDE ... IT'S TIME TO PUT ALL PREVIOUS CONFLICTS ASIDE AND DEAL WITH A NEW SPIRIT AND A WAY THAT IS DIFFERENT FROM WHAT WAS IN THE PAST, IN ORDER TO SAVE THE IRAQI PEOPLE ..."

15. UNDER THE HEADLINE, "THE FALL OF THE QUARTET," "AL KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED 9/28:

"... THE QUARTET SHATTERED OUR HOPES AFTER THEY DECIDED TO STAND BEHIND THE AMERICAN POSITION TO LABEL ISRAEL INNOCENT OF ALL TERRORIST ATTACKS AND THE WAR OF DEMOLITION IT HAS BEEN COMMITTING AGAINST THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. IT (THE QUARTET) CONSIDERS ALL THIS TO BE 'THE RIGHT TO DEFEND THEMSELVES AGAINST TERRORIST ATTACKS COMMITTED AGAINST THEIR PEOPLE' ... IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, THE QUARTET IS BETTER OFF TO PULL OUT FROM THIS MAP ... OR THEY SHOULD NOT PUT THEMSELVES IN THIS AWKWARD SITUATION THAT WILL LEAD TO THE LOSS OF THEIR CREDIBILITY ..."

16. UNDER THE HEADLINE, "UNSEEMLY RUSH TO WRITE A STATUTE," ENGLISH-LANGUAGE EXPATRIATE-ORIENTED "GULF NEWS" EDITORIALIZED 9/28:

"THE SIX-MONTH TIME FRAME SUGGESTED BY US SECRETARY OF STATE COLIN POWELL FOR THE IRAQI PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT TO PRODUCE A CONSTITUTION IS VERY SHORT. IT ALSO IMPLIES THAT A READY-MADE CONSTITUTION, COMPILED BY PRO-AMERICAN IRAQIS AND CONSTITUTIONAL EXPERTS, HAS ALREADY BEEN HAMMERED OUT AND MERELY NEEDS THE "BLESSING" OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT AND AUTHORITY ... THE

IRAQIS ARE WELL ABLE TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS, BUT IT WILL NEED MUCH NEGOTIATION TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE DIFFERENT ETHNIC GROUPINGS AND TRIBES IN THE COUNTRY. A 'READY-MADE' WESTERN-STYLE CONSTITUTION WILL NOT SIT WELL WITH THE IRAQIS, WHICH IS WHY LENGTHY NEGOTIATIONS INVOLVING ALL INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD TAKE PLACE."

WAHBA